**Report on the activities of the Regional Centre for World Heritage in Zacatecas.**

1.- We would like to inform you the Agreement to create the Regional World Heritage Institute in Zacatecas concluded on April 12, 2010 between the United Mexican States and the UNESCO was subjected to several amendments to the original text after a long process of intersecretariat meetings and exchange of diplomatic notes guaranteed by the legal departments of the Government of Mexico and the Authorities of UNESCO, owing to various inconsistencies between this legal instrument and the issued Organic Law in advanced to the Agreement by the State Legislature of Zacatecas was necessary to rectify with the consensus of both parties, and have a new amended Agreement, the same one signed on April 1, 2014 in Mexico City between those authorities.

Corrections made ​​to the Agreement allowed to specify with precision its legal status and management structure, the redefinition of the objectives and functions of the Institute, the composition of the Board of Directors, and the procedure to do so, in order to integrate to such structure, to at least 9 representatives of the States Parties entitled to a say in the decision-making of the direction and supervision of the Institute, clarifying the roles of the Board of Directors, and funding commitments.

In view of the above and based on the commitment provisions by Article 2 of the Agreement, the Government of Zacatecas has developed the initiative which will be sent in the next few days to the Legislature of the State to create the "Institute", and the abrogation of the Organic Law, which resulted in the creation of the current "Centro".

2. Activities 2013-2014.

* The diploma in Restoration of Heritage Buildings, involving 54 public officials from the federal and state governments and the decentralized government agencies related to the care and protection of heritage.
* The dissemination of the World Cultural Heritage through interviews in print, media, websites, social media, radio, television, and 22 conferences, among which stand "Introduction to the World Cultural and Natural Heritage", "The Convention of 1972", and "The Participation of Civil Society in the Conservation and Protection of World Heritage", targeting a universe of approximately 1,800 people, including students of public and private universities, technological universities, college of professionals, and civil society organizations.
* A collaboration in the preparation and development of the "2nd International Congress on Experiences in the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage" held in the city of Zacatecas.
* A work meeting at the Institute's headquarters, which was chaired by the head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Mexico and the participation of the Ambassadors of the States Parties in the Region of Central America and the Caribbean. The meeting provided a report on the activities of the Institute and its benefits to the Region.
* The collaboration in the 43rd CIOFF World Congress of the International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals and Folk Arts, which was sponsored by UNESCO, and held in the City of Zacatecas.
* The collaboration in the organization and development of the events to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the inscription of the Historic Centre of Zacatecas in the UNESCO World Heritage List.
* A collaboration for conducting the conciliation meeting and signing of the Cooperation Framework Agreement in Subject Educational, Cultural and Scientific between the Governor of Zacatecas and the UNESCO Representative in Mexico.
* A work meeting chaired by the representative of UNESCO in Mexico and the Municipal Presidents of Zacatecas and Guadalupe, to acknowledge the progress of management plans for both sites.
* The participation in the First International Meeting of the Network of the Associated Schools Project of UNESCO, in which the themes of the Convention of 1972 were discussed and the creation and operation of the Institute and the Cultural Itinerary "El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro".
* A workshop in recreational activities over the World Heritage for children of employees of the Government of the State of Zacatecas.
* A work meeting with the communities of Palmillas and El Refugio of the Municipality of Ojocaliente Zacatecas to discuss issues related to the sites "Avalos Cave" and "Paved road of Palmillas" of Camino Real de Tierra Adentro.
* The Participation in the preparation of the Action Plan for World Heritage in Latin America and the Caribbean (2014-2024) in Brasilia, Brazil.

Activities scheduled:

* A work meeting for the elaboration of training projects for the Region, in collaboration with the UNESCO Representative in Mexico, representatives of the Advisory Bodies (ICOMOS, ICCROM and UICN) and members of the Board of Directors to agree on modules and subjects of the courses and the training providers.
* To coordinate the activities of the 2nd International Congress of Cultural Landscapes.
* To continue with the cycle of conferences and talks on World Heritage.
* A project to implement the Master of Cultural Heritage through a cooperation agreement with the Autonomous University of Zacatecas, which is currently reviewing financing sources.
* A project to create a Diploma in Built Heritage Conservation with a collaboration agreement together with the University Institute for Postgraduate in Senior Management.
* To continue with the process of gathering information in English, French, and Spanish to formalize the Documentation Center of the 122 sites in the Region on the World Heritage List of UNESCO.
* It was conducted with the staff working at the Institute, "The Introduction to Results-based Management” Training (RBM).

Ing. Susana Alvarado De la Torre

Sub-coordinación de Investigación.

Instituto Regional del Patrimonio Mundial en Zacatecas,

bajo los auspicios de la UNESCO.

Av. Juan de Tolosa N° 831 Centro Histórico Zacatecas.

Tels. +52 (492) 9242339/9241910/9243342-ext. 122/123.

http://www.unesco-zacatecas.org.mx/

susana.alvarado10@gmail.com